

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7735

Joint Petition of Otelco, Inc., Shoreham )  
Telephone, LLC, and Shoreham Telephone, Inc. )  
for approval of a transfer of control by merger, )  
asset transfer, and associated transactions, )  
pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 107, 108, 109, 231 and )  
311, including the issuance of a certificate of )  
public good, and the designation of New )  
Shoreham as an Eligible Telecommunications )  
Carrier )

Order entered: 6/14/2011

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM**

On April 11, 2011, Otelco, Inc. ("Otelco"), Shoreham Telephone, LLC ("New Shoreham"), and Shoreham Telephone, Inc. ("Shoreham"), (collectively the "Petitioners"), filed a joint petition with the Vermont Public Service Board ("Board") for approval of a transfer of control by merger, asset transfer, and associated transactions, including the issuance of a certificate of public good, and the designation of New Shoreham as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. A prehearing conference was convened on May 31, 2011. The following parties entered appearances: Joslyn L. Wilschek, Esq. (substituting for Paul Phillips, Esq.), Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC, for Shoreham; Gregory M. Kennan, Esq., Fagelbaum & Heller LLP, for Otelco; and James Porter, Esq., for the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department").

**INTERVENTION**

No other persons were present or identified at the prehearing conference who wished to seek intervention in this proceeding. This Order sets a deadline of June 17 for such requests.

**SCHEDULE & PROTECTIVE ORDER**

The primary topic of discussion was the schedule for this proceeding. The Petitioners and the Department agreed to a proposed schedule, outlined below, but with the recommendation that the September 8 date for the Technical Hearing be considered a tentative date.

During the prehearing conference, the parties also discussed the Petitioner's Amended Motion for Protective Order and Motion for Protective Order for Specific Material. I informed the parties that the motions were presently under review and that a Procedural Order addressing the motions would be issued upon completion of the review.

The parties also discussed a Motion from Otelco and Shoreham to waive Rule 2.201, with an associated Notice of Appearance for Gregory M. Kennan, Esq. and Trina M. Bragdon, Esq. to serve as out-of-state counsel. With no party objecting, I granted the Motion.

After discussion with the parties, I have adopted and modified the proposed schedule as set forth below:

May 31, 2011	Prehearing Conference
June 10, 2011	Petitioners file testimony
June 17, 2011	Deadline for Intervention Motions (Motions may be filed at any time prior to the deadline. Other parties shall file responses to such motions within 7-calendar days of the time the motion is filed.)
June 24, 2011	Workshop at 1:30 (subject to confirmation by the Clerk's Office)
July 27, 2011	Public Hearing (subject to confirmation by the Clerk's Office)
August 3, 2011	Stipulation or Status report due. If the parties cannot stipulate, the parties shall file a proposed or stipulated litigation schedule for the remainder of the proceeding.
September 8, 2011	Technical Hearing - tentative

**So ORDERED.**

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011.

s/Jay E. Dudley  
Jay E. Dudley  
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: June 14, 2011

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: [psb.clerk@state.vt.us](mailto:psb.clerk@state.vt.us))*